KING IN BLACK

SCREAM

Lee InHyuk

CHAPMAN
BROWN
ROSENBERG

MARVEL

1

WE ALL MAKE SACRIFICES.

A SUPER VILLAIN NAMED *SHRIEK* SACRIFICED HERSELF FOR THE ONE SHE LOVED...

TOO BAD IT WAS *CARNAGE*, AND HE REPAID HER BY *RIPPING HER SPINE OUT.*

HE USED HER BODY AS A VESSEL TO RESURRECT THE DEMON CALLED...

...DEMAGOBLIN.

NOW *DEMAGOBLIN* HAS BEEN LURING INNOCENT CHILDREN INTO HER OWN KIDDIE CULT.

TRAIL WENT COLD A FEW DAYS AGO...

...BUT IT'S BEEN A CRAZY WEEK.

THE GOD OF THE SYMBIOTES, KNULL, HAS COVERED THE WORLD IN A SYMBIOTE DOME AS HIS LEGION OF DRAGONS TERRORIZE AND DEVOUR THE PEOPLE OF THIS CITY.

KNULL, THE CREATOR AND GOD OF THE SYMBIOTES. ONE OF HIS *PETS* NEARLY *KILLED* ME.

STILL. DEMAGOBLIN'S BEEN BRAINWASHING HOMELESS BOYS AND GIRLS INTO BLINDLY FOLLOWING HER.

SHE'S USING HER DEMONIC HELLFIRE TO HYPNOTIZE HER DISCIPLES.

ACOLYTES, SHE CALLS THEM.

NO MORE.

WE WILL PUT HER BACK IN THE GROUND. NOT JUST BURY HER...

...WE'RE SENDING HER ALL THE WAY *BACK TO HELL*, WHERE SHE BELONGS.

SMASH

KNULL, THE GOD OF THE SYMBIOTES, HAS LANDED ON EARTH, COVERING THE PLANET IN A SYMBIOTE DOME AND SUBJECTING ALL OF HUMANITY TO HIS ARMY OF SYMBIOTE DRAGONS.

ANDI BENTON, HUMAN HOST TO THE SYMBIOTE ***SCREAM***, HAS HER OWN COMPLICATED HISTORY WITH SYMBIOTES. FROM THE DEATH OF HER FATHER AND BEING IMBUED WITH A DEMONIC HELL-MARK THAT PROVIDES HER WITH HELLFIRE POWERS, TO FIGHTING THE HYBRID MIGHT OF SCREAM'S FOUR SYMBIOTE SIBLINGS, ANDI AND SCREAM HAVE FORGED AN UNBREAKABLE BOND. THROUGH IT ALL, ANDI HAS PERSEVERED TO BECOME ONE OF THE MOST RESILIENT SYMBIOTE HEROES EARTH HAS TO PROTECT IT.

SCREAM

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SCREAM! THERE YOU ARE, DARLING...

FOR WEEKS, WE SENSED A DARK FORCE COMING SINCE CLETUS KASADY RELEASED IT...

I WAS GETTING WORRIED YOU WOULDN'T FIND ME.

SLAK

KRAST

WITH SHRIEK'S ABILITIES AND HER HELLISH POWERS, DEMAGOBLIN IS DANGEROUS ENOUGH ON HER OWN. BUT NOW...

...SHE'S GOTTEN HERSELF AN ARMY.

YOU'RE TOO LATE.

AN ARMY OF KIDS.

DON'T YOU SEE? THE BLACK RAIN. THE LIVING ICHOR FROM THE SKY.

GOD SAID, "I SHALL SEND A GREAT PESTILENCE UPON YOU"...

BUT THIS TIME, IT IS A PESTILENCE THAT WALKS AMONG US! THAT FLIES THROUGH THE AIR AS MAGNIFICENT BEASTS!

THAT CONSUMES THE MEN AND WOMEN OF THIS CITY, DELIVERING THEM TO THEIR JUST REWARDS DESPITE THEIR PROTESTS! WE MUST ***WELCOME IT*** WITH OPEN ARMS!

DON'T HURT THEM, ***SCREAM.***

EASIER SAID THAN DONE, ANDI.

I WAS JUST LIKE THEM. STILL AM, IN A WAY.

HURT. ALONE. NOWHERE TO GO. NO ONE TO HELP.

NOT ANY LONGER.

HAVE TO GET THEM TO SAFETY AND THEN DEAL WITH--

SSKRREEEE

SPLCH

SLAM

SUCH A WASTE! EVEN NOW I CAN FEEL YOUR TRUE POWERS SIMMERING WITHIN...

BUT YOU'D RATHER STIFLE YOUR GIFTS. ***SUPPRESS*** YOUR HELL-MARK AND ITS WONDROUS FIRE! A FLAME UNLIKE ANY OTHER ON EARTH, GIVEN TO YOU BY ***THE UNDERWORLD*** ITSELF!

KRIK

KRIK

ONLY SOMEONE ***UNWORTHY*** OF THEIR HELLFIRE WOULD SEE IT AS A CURSE.

SHUK

SHUK

SHUK

NOT A GIFT.

A CURSE.

OUR CURSE.

CRSSSHHFT

AAAHAHAHAHAHA!

THOOM

TIME TO SPREAD THE GOSPEL!

KRASH

CAN'T CHASE AFTER DEMAGOBLIN NOW. SAVE HER FOR LATER.

FIRST WE NEED TO SAVE THE CHILDREN.

THAT MEANS WE MUST...

...ADAPT.

THIS SHOULD BE THE LAST OF THEM.

ARE YOU SURE? HARD TO SEE... TOO MUCH SMOKE.

THWIP

THERE. ONE MORE.

GOT YOU.

HOLD ON!

EVEN NOW THESE CHILDREN ARE TRAPPED IN DEMAGOBLIN'S SWAY

THOOM

MUST BE A FORM OF HER DARK EMPATHY

SHE HAS DRAWN OUT THEIR PAIN, THEIR SENSE OF ABANDONMENT.

SHE MAKES THEM FEEL LIKE THEY FINALLY BELONG SOMEWHERE. NOW THEY BELONG TO HER.

KRAK

WH-WHA? WHERE AM I?

YOU'RE SAFE, CHILD. YOU ALL ARE.

GO TO F.E.A.S.T. IT'S TEN BLOCKS UP THAT WAY. FIND MAY PARKER. TELL HER THAT--

KRREEEE!

AGH! CAN'T HEAR OURSELVES THINK UNDER DEMAGOBLIN'S SONIC SCREAM!

AGH! CAN'T HEAR OURSELVES THINK UNDER DEMAGOBLIN'S SONIC SCREAM!

LOOK ABOUT YOU! THE ANGELS HERALD *HIS* ARRIVAL!

HIS WRATH IS NOW UPON US! LET THOSE WHO HAVE SINNED *FALL TO THEIR KNEES!*

DEMAGOBLIN HAS AN AERIAL ADVANTAGE

WE NEED MORE LEVERAGE

THERE YOU ARE! LOOK AT YOU...

...SCUTTLING TO HIDE, LIKE ALL THE OTHER VERMIN IN THIS CITY.

YOU CANNOT HIDE FROM GOD'S MIGHTY WRATH!

HIDE? WE DON'T WANT TO *HIDE*. WE'RE HERE TO...

BOOM

BOOM

...FLY.

CAN YOU FLY WITHOUT YOUR GLIDER, DEMAGOBLIN?

LET'S SEE!

GET OFF ME!

SEE IF HE ANSWERS!

WHY NOT PRAY TO YOUR GOD NOW?

SHUK

SHUK

THOOM

OOOF--

THUD

THAT ROOF CAME UP QUICKER THAN I THOUGHT.

MUST PICK OURSELVES UP BEF--

YOU ARE SUCH A WASTE OF A *HELL-MARK!*

HUMANS, ALWAYS RUNNING FROM YOUR DEMONS! TRYING TO HIDE WHO YOU ARE!

WHAT YOU *TRULY* ARE...

DON'T YOU SEE? YOU'RE NOT WRESTLING *WITH* YOUR INNER DEMONS...

SLAK

YOU *ARE* A DEMON.

FW

NOOOOO

FWWWOOOOOOOOOM

PLLEEEEASE

SSSHK

YOU ARE RIGHT, DEMAGOBLIN... ENOUGH TURMOIL.

GLLK!

ENOUGH *TRAUMA.*

WE ARE TIRED OF BELIEVING WE ARE A VICTIM.

OUR *PAIN* HAS MADE US *STRONGER.* OUR *SCARS* ARE OUR *HISTORY...*

SHK

...AND OUR SCREAMS ARE OUR LEGACY.

SHK

SHK

LEGACY, YES. HISTORY, OF COURSE. THAT'S ALL THAT'LL BE LEFT OF YOU...

LOOK.

I DON'T *NEED* TO LOOK I... *WE* ALREADY FEEL IT. FEEL *HIM.*

KNULL

THE KING IN BLACK

CAN YOU FEEL IT? THIS POWER?

HARK! THE LORD HAS SENT ME A DELIVERER! THE PESTILENT KING HIMSELF!

TOO LATE, SCREAM...TOO LATE TO SAVE YOUR INNOCENT CHILDREN.

TOO LATE TO SAVE THIS MISERABLE CITY.

THE COLD DARK THAT SWEEPS OVER?

KNULL IS HERE.

WE COME FROM THAT DARKNESS THAT DARKNESS WAS OUR HOME

LET HIS CLEANSING COMMENCE!

THE CLOSER HE COMES THE MORE THAT DARKNESS SWEEPS OVER US.

SEEPS INTO US

OH, HOLY MASTER...WE KNEEL BEFORE THEE...

WE DO NOT DESERVE TO BE GRACED BY YOUR PRESSENSSSS--

SILENCE.

THUK

YOU TALK TOO MUCH

MMPH-HRMM-HMMPH!

LEAVE US.

YOU. WE HAVE SENSED YOU AND THE FAINT LIGHT WITHIN YOU BEFORE.

UH.

WHY ARE WE NOT FIGHTING?

CAN'T

CAN'T BRING OURSELVES TO HURT A GOD.

OUR GOD.

YOU HAVE BEEN A THORN IN MY SIDE SINCE I FIRST WOKE. YOU EVADED CARNAGE AND YOU KILLED ONE OF MY CHILDREN.

I INTEND TO REPAY YOU IN KIND. YOU...

...AND YOUR HOST.

I WILL REND YOU FROM HER FIRST. THEN HER FLESH. THEN THE LITTLE SPARK THAT BURNS WITHIN HER.

YOU WANT THE LIGHT INSIDE OF US? COME AND TAKE IT.

SUCH SPIRIT!

LET'S SEE HOW WELL YOU FARE AGAINST ANOTHER OF MY DRAGONS, NOW THAT THEIR MASTER IS NEAR.

SPLOOOSH

I FEEL KNULL'S PSYCHIC ASSAULT THE SECOND THE DRAGON TOUCHES ME. AND I'M NOT ALONE

MY SYMBIOTE FELT IT TOO

TOO POWERFUL...

I'M SORRY AND I...

I KNOW, SCREAM, BUT I NEED YOU RIGHT NOW, BECAUSE RIGHT NOW...

SOMETHING TO PLAY WITH.

SSSSNK

...WE'RE FALLING!

CAN'T REGAIN OUR BALANCE. CAN'T KEEP OURSELVES FROM--

MY PROGENY HAVE TOILED SO HARD. THEY DESERVE A NEW TOY.

SWOMP

PAIN. TRYING TO MINIMIZE THE PAIN.

THERE'S TOO MUCH...

TOO MUCH...

PAIN.

SCREAM?

HOLD ON TO ME!

STAY WITH ME!

SCREAM?!

DON'T LET G--

SCARED

DON'T
DON'T
DON'T

D-DON'T... LET GO... OF...

MEEE...

GET UP

GOT TO...

...FIGHT

FIGHT

THAT'S IT. COME ON. YOU CAN DO IT.

WE CAN DO IT

FIGHT FIRE...

...WITH HELLFIRE.

FWWOOOOM

SSKRREEEEEEEE!

SSSKRREEEEE--

SCUUL-P

RRRAAAAWR!

NOT HAPPENING TODAY. SORRY...

LEARN FROM OUR PAIN. FEEL IT. UNDERSTAND IT.

HARNESS IT.

OUR PAIN IS OUR STRENGTH.

FWOOOM

HOW UNFORTUNATE.

THE GALAXY HAS SULLIED MY PROGENY. THEIR HOSTS HAVE TAINTED THEIR PURITY.

CORRUPTED THEM WITH WILLFULNESS. INSOLENCE. IT IS TIME YOU LEARNED TO...

...RESPECT YOUR ELDERS.

NEVER!

SKRRREEEEEE!

KRSHH

WHEN WILL YOU LEARN?

BWAAOOOSH!

YOU CANNOT STOP ME.

THOOM

YOU CANNOT EVEN BEGIN TO COMPREHEND MY POWER.

I KNOW YOUR THOUGHTS BEFORE THEY MANIFEST EVEN WITHIN YOUR OWN MIND.

SPLCK

SPLCK

SPLCK

I KNOW BECAUSE YOUR THOUGHTS ARE MY THOUGHTS.

CHOP

YOUR BLOOD IS MY BLOOD.

JOIN ME.

THUK

IT IS YOUR ONLY HOPE FOR LIVING ANOTHER DAY.

NOT TRUE.

WE NOW HAVE FIRE.

HELLFIRE.

HERE. HAVE SOME!

YES, AND! CAN FEEL IT THROUGH THE HIVE! THIS HURTS HIM! HE IS WOUNDED...

FWOOOSH

AND PISSED. GUESS THIS GOD'S NOT AS INVINCIBLE AS HE THINKS HE IS.

WELL, WELL, YOU CERTAINLY ARE FULL OF SURPRISES.

I DON'T LIKE SURPRISES.

TIME TO EXTINGUISH YOUR TINY FLAME.

LOOK UPON ME, CHILD. SEE THE FACE OF YOUR DEMISE.

WE HAVE A BETTER IDEA...

OH? INDULGE US.

LISTEN CLOSELY, AND HEAR USSS...

KA-BOOOM

BROWN

MCLEOD

SCREEEAAM!

HOW...

HOW DOES ONE...

HOW DOES ONE HARNESSSS...

HHOW DOES ONE HARNESS SSSUCH...

SIMPLE. IT'S ALL WE'VE EVER FELT. ALL WE'VE EVER HAD.

IT'S WHAT BONDS US. MAKES USS ONE.

FORGED IN HELLFIRE.

KRIK

...PAIN?

WE'VE GROWN TIRED OF THESE GAMES. YOU'VE AMUSED US...

...WHICH IS WHY WE'LL LET YOU LIVE. FOR NOW. UNTIL WE DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH YOU.

WE'LL SAVE YOU THE TROUBLE. JUST KEEP YOUR EARS PEELED. THE NEXT ONE TO SCREAM...

...WILL BE YOU.

WAS THAT WISE? TAUNTING HIM?

WHO KNOWS? WHO *CARES*. WHAT MATTERS IS...

...NOW WE KNOW WE CAN HURT HIM.

THE END.

NEXT:
KING IN BLACK #5

CHECKLIST

- [x] **KING IN BLACK: GWENOM VS. CARNAGE #3**
  CAN GWEN SAVE MARY JANE? OR WILL CARNAGE WIN?
- [x] **KING IN BLACK: THUNDERBOLTS #3**
  THE THUNDERBOLTS ARE DOING *WHAT* WITH *WHO*? THIS CAN'T END WELL FOR ANYONE!
- [x] **KING IN BLACK: CAPTAIN AMERICA #1**
  CAPTAIN AMERICA, FALCON AND THE WINTER SOLDIER HAVE BOOTS ON THE GROUND AGAINST AN ARMY OF SYMBIOTES!
- [x] **KING IN BLACK: WICCAN AND HULKLING #1**
  A HONEYMOON UNLIKE ANY OTHER—THE NEWLYWEDS FACE THE WRATH OF KNULL!

- [x] **FANTASTIC FOUR #30**
  A FAMILY DIVIDED CANNOT STAND!

- [x] **KING IN BLACK: SPIDER-MAN #1**
  PETER PARKER FINDS INSPIRATION IN A YOUNG HERO: REPTIL!
- [x] **S.W.O.R.D. #4**
  THE AGENTS OF S.W.O.R.D. ENGAGE PROTOCOL V!

- [x] **KING IN BLACK: SCREAM #1**
  DEFEATING HYBRID WAS ONLY THE BEGINNING! ENTER: DEMAGOBLIN!

- [ ] **SAVAGE AVENGERS #19**
  CONAN IS TASKED WITH FREEING THE KNULLIFIED X-MEN—HE'S GOT HIS WORK CUT OUT FOR HIM!

- [ ] **BETA RAY BILL #1**
  WITHOUT STORMBREAKER, BETA RAY BILL MUST BATTLE THE KNULLIFIED FIN FANG FOOM!
- [ ] **KING IN BLACK: GHOST RIDER #1**
  THE KING OF HELL FACES THE KING IN BLACK!
- [ ] **KING IN BLACK: RETURN OF THE VALKYRIES #4**
  THE VALKYRIES ARE UNITED AGAINST KNULL—WITH EVERY SOUL IN EXISTENCE AT STAKE!
- [ ] **SYMBIOTE SPIDER-MAN: KING IN BLACK # 5**
  MR. E'S FINAL PLAY TO FREE THE KING IN BLACK CRASHES DOWN ON SYMBIOTE SPIDEY!

THE CONCLUSION IS COMING!

- [ ] **KING IN BLACK: NAMOR #5**
  THE WAVES OF THE PAST AND THE PRESENT COLLIDE!
- [ ] **VENOM #34**
  WHAT LIES BEYOND FOR EDDIE BROCK?
- [ ] **KING IN BLACK: PLANET OF THE SYMBIOTES #3**
  CLOAK AND DAGGER FACE THE DARKNESS WHILE TOXIN RETURNS!
- [ ] **KING IN BLACK #5** (PICTURED)
  WHAT'S A GOD TO A NONBELIEVER?

ZONE